

REMARKS

The only rejection presented in the Office Action mailed September 10, 2004 is directed to Non-Statutory Double Patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,631,333. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection as being improper.

The parent application (Serial No. 09/596,758, now U.S. Patent No. 6,631,333) was subject to a Restriction Requirement on September 9, 2002. In response, Applicants elected the invention of Group II (claims 25-54) on October 16, 2002.

The present application is directed to the non-elected subject matter from the parent application (i.e., claims 1-24 and 55-59). Thus, divisional status of the present application is proper. Applicants submit that as a Divisional Application, the parent application cannot be used against it pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejection.

Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. Thus Examiner is invited to call the undersigned should there be any remaining issues requiring discussion.

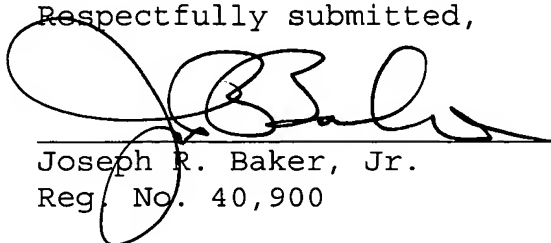
No fee is believed to be due. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

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9/24/04

Fish & Richardson P.C.
12390 El Camino Real
San Diego, California 92130
Telephone: (858) 678-5070
Facsimile: (858) 678-5099
10439223.doc

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph R. Baker, Jr.
Reg. No. 40,900